

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Andrej BUGRIM et al.

Application No.: 10/518,103

Filed: (Int'l) June 18, 2003

For: METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING  
COMPOUNDS FOR TREATING DISEASE  
STATES

Confirmation No.: 5310

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: K. Skowronek

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application. A final Office Action was mailed on August 20, 2008 ("the OA"), for which a response was due on November 20, 2008. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a two months extension of time, thereby extending the due date for response to January 21, 2009 (January 20, 2009 is Inauguration Day, a federal holiday). Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.